

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Takeo Oshiba et al.

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Title: Image Forming Method

---

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98**

Dear Sirs:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. According to a Notice signed July 11, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for all patent applications filed after June 30, 2003. Since this patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, Applicants have not provided copies of the cited U.S. patents. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents have been submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to dispute the listed documents as prior art during examination. Furthermore, Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application. The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information may exist.

The Examiner is requested to initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and return a copy thereof to the undersigned.

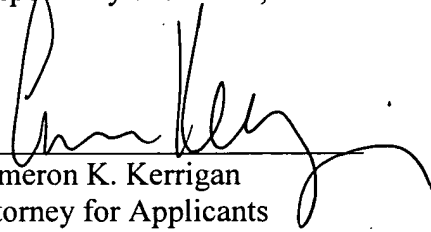
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a new patent application. Therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies or other amounts due to Deposit Account No. 07-1850.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3/12/04

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.  
One Maritime Plaza, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
Telephone (415) 954-0200  
Facsimile (415) 393-9887

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cameron K. Kerrigan  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 44.826

<b>FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)</b> Approved for use through 10/31/2002 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <b>in an Application</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE US Patent and Trademark Office		Docket No. <b>47539.34</b>		Application No. <b>Not Yet Assigned</b>	
				Applicant <b>Takeo Oshiba et al.</b>			
				Filing Date <b>March 2004</b>		Group Art Unit <b>Not Yet Assigned</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial	Ref. No.	Document Number	Date of Patent	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	A1						
	A2						
	A3						
	A4						
	A5						
	A6						
	A7						
	A8						
	A9						
	A10						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial	Ref. No.	Document Number	Date of Publication	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	B1	08-202204	08/09/96	Japan	G03G	21/00		
	B2	05-333615	12/17/93	Japan	G03G	15/00		
	B3	02-118684	05/02/90	Japan	G03G	21/00		
	B4	06-019377	01/28/94	Japan	G03G	21/00		
	B5	WO 00/49466	08/24/00	PCT	G03G	21/00		
	B6							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	C1
	C2
	C3
	C4
	C5
	C6

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
 Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.